OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL INFORMATION OFFICER TO THE GOVERNMENT OF MYSORE, OLD PUBLIC OFFICES, BANGALORE.

Press Note.

Export of Non-ferrous Metal Manufactures.

The following Trade Notice issued by the Chief Controller of Exports, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India, regarding the export of non-ferrous metal manufactures, is republished for general information.

TRADE NOTICE.

"It has now been decided that export of brass utensils, which was hitherto restricted up to 25 per cent of 1950 exports, will now be permitted up to 50 per cent of the exports during the same year, namely, 1950".

(P.N. No. 287—24-1-52).

Press Note.

WORKING OF THE IRON AND STEEL CONTROL AUTHORITY IN MYSORE DURING THE PAST FOUR YEARS. (1947 TO 1951).

Functioning of the Control Authority.—The entire distribution of steel produced in the country being vested in the Iron and Steel Control Organisation of the Government of India; Mysore State gets a periodical quota of steel and the Iron and Steel Control Authority in Mysore has been allotting to the extent possible the requirements of the consumers.

The Control Orders notified by the Government of Mysore in regard to control over distribution of steel and scrap supplies, were in force till September 1950. The Iron and Steel (Control of Production and Distribution) Order and the Scrap Control Order of the Central Government, were extended to Mysore State during September 1950. The working of the Control system during the period was satisfactory.

Allotment.—Till 1947 the State used to get bulk allotments. From 1947 to 1950, separate quotas were allotted by the Centre under "Agricultural" and "Non-Agricultural" heads. Since 1950, additional quotas are being received in respect of (i) Government-sponsored Housing Schemes; (ii) Grow More Food Schemes; (iii) Government Development Schemes and Steel Processing Industries; and (iv) Cottage and Small-scale Industries.

The present allotment of steel for distribution to the general public and the small-scale manufacturers is 470 tons as against 778 tons during 1947. With the increase in the public building programme in the State and the increase in the number of small-scale manufacturers, it is becoming difficult to satisfy the needs of the public. Therefore, release of steel for the construction of new cinema theatres, restaurants and shops, has been suspended.

In March 1948, the Government of Mysore were pleased to constitute a Committee to consider the best manner of distribution of steel allotted to the State. After examination of the position in detail, the Committee recommended that the Amildars in the State may be authorised to issue permits for 2 cwts. of steel per applicant for purpose of building construction. This recommendation was adopted. The release of steel for the construction of residential building is therefore restricted to 2 tons per applicant at a time.

The requirements of the manufacturers of consumer goods and carts, and of the cottage industries were released to the extent possible, according to the recommendations of the Director of Industries and Commerce.

The work of releasing galvanised corrugated sheets to the general public has been entrusted to the Deputy Commissioner of each District since 1950.

Distribution through Registered Dealers.—Distribution of steel to the general public is being made through the registered dealers in the State. Prior to 1947, there were 87 registered dealers. As the dealings of some of these dealers were found to be suspicious, 14 dealers were removed after necessary inspection. Further, as the supply position of steel is not satisfactory, the names of 34 dealers, whose business was dormant, were removed from the list of registered dealers as per advice from the Iron and Steel Controller, Government of India. There are now 39 registered dealers for steel in the State.

General.—In view of the continual growth of the towns on account of the expansion and starting of industries and public utility works, there is great demand for steel for construction of dwelling houses, etc., and the present allotment of steel for this purpose is out of all proportions to the needs of the public. Since the Central Government are themselves allotting the requirements of the Industries and Government interests direct, the allotment to the general public and small-scale manufacturers has been cut down considerably. The same difficulty is experienced with regard to the galvanised sheets. The Government of India is being continuously urged for grant of increased allotments to our State.

However, with the meagre allotment to the State, distribution of steel is being made as equitably as possible, depending upon the *bona fide* needs of the applicants.

(P.N. No. 288—24-1-1952).

Prss Note.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE MARKETING DEPARTMENT FROM 1947-48 to 1950-51.

The Marketing Department which was constituted in April 1941 was made permanent with effect from April 1948. The Registrar of Co-operative Societies and Commissioner for Rural Development is the *Ex-officio* Chief Marketing Officer.

The main functions of the Marketing Department are the folllowing:—

I. Marketing Survey.

The Department has conducted 51 Marketing Surveys so far in respect of agricultural commodities, livestock and livestock products. Of these, the following 14 surveys were conducted during the period under report: (i) Chillies, (ii) Onion and Garlic, (iii) Sesamum and Nigar, (iv) Cotton seed and other oil seeds, (v) Animal fats and by-products, (vi) Turmeric, (vii) Pomagranates, (viii) Pepper, (ix) Ginger, (x) Melons, Papaya, etc., (xi) Honey and Bees-wax, (xii) Root vegetables, (xiii) Pulses and (xiv) Coal crops. Out of 51 Marketing Survey reports so far drafted, nine reports of the commodities noted below have been printed and copies of the same were put up for sale in the Dasara Exhibition. Necessary action is being taken to get the rest of the reports printed.

1 Honey and Bees-wax
2 Root Vegetables
3 Cole Crops
4 Animal Fats and By-products
5 Melons, Water Melons, Lichies, Papaya and Custard Apples.
6 Turmeric
7 Meat
8 Poultry
9 Chillies

The above reports contain valuable information with regard to the production, imports, exports, demand and utilisation, prices, transport, assembling and distribution and research work. The information furnished by the Department has been incorporated in the All-India Reports.

II. Administration of Weights and Measures Act.—The administration of the Weights and Measures Act and the staff working at it have been transferred from the control of the Director of Industries and Commerce to the Chief Marketing Officer with effect from 15th March 1949 as per one of the recommendations made by the Marketing Sub-Committee presided over by Sir T. Vijayaraghavacharya.

A recommendation was made to Government for extending the Mysore Weights and Measures Act to the whole of the State. But Government dropped the question due to financial implications involved in the proposal. Another recommendation was made to extend the Act to 40 more places. Government sanctioned the same and the Act is in force in 100 places in the State at present.

The Government have also enhanced the rates of fee to be paid for testing and stamping weights and measures with effect from 1st October 1950.

During the period under report, 163,622 units of weights and measures were presented for testing. Of these, 153,201 units of weights and measures were certified for correctness